(c) The District Plans in respect of 25 districts were approved during the year 2002-03. However, the funds for these districts could not be released as the modalities of the scheme were yet to be approved by the Government. The first instalment of Rs. 7.50 crore for each of the 25 districts has already been released.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Yes, sir. An amount of Rs. 15 crore will be allocated each year for three years i.e. Rs. 45 crore to each of the 132 districts totalling to an outlay of Rs. 5940 crore in the Tenth Plan Period.

(f) During the current financial year, a total of 66 districts, including 16 districts affected by Left Wing Extremism, are being covered. The coverage of the remaining districts will start from the next year.

Priority agenda on reforms

322. SHRI R.R GOENKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a list of 130 policy initiatives has been drawn up for executing the Government's priority agenda on reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the concerned Ministries have been asked to prepare their time-bound action plans on how to achieve the objectives of the thrust items related projects;

(d) if so, whether a broad outline of the various projects identified and the action plans drawn up therefor, with their time targets; and

(e) the details of monitoring mechanism established to ensure timely completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) 163 Priority Agenda Items/ Thrust Areas relating to programmes/projects and policy initiatives have been identified by the Government for implementation in various sectors. A list of these priority agenda items/thrust areas is given in the annexure *(See* Appendix 200, Annexure No. 4)

(c) to (e) The concerned Ministries/Departments have drawn up their action plans, wherever required, with time frame in respect to their programmes/projects and policy initiatives for monitoring on regular basis.

Of the 163 Priority Agenda Items/Thrust Areas, 31 items are to be monitored by the Prime Minister with the assistance of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and remaining 132 items through Committee of Secretaries. Thrust Areas requiring involvement of multiple agencies and participation of various State Government authorities are expedited through coordination meetings at higher levels. In some thrust Areas, Group of Ministers monitors to expedite the concurrence and views of the participating agencies.

Self-employment Schemes

323. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes to provide self-employment for the unemployed youths from the year 1998-2003;

(b) the number of unemployed youths who have been able to enjoy self-employment opportunities during these years;

(c) the percentage of the youths enjoying benefits ou,t of the total number of unemployed youths; and

(d) the plan to provide market for the goods that would be produced by the unemployed youths through self-employment benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Government is implementing various self-employment schemes, benefits of which are also available to the unemployed youth. Some of these are Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarna Jayanti shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJS.RY), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP).

(b) and (c) Information on percentage and age of beneficiaries under the self-employment schemes is not compiled.

(d) Tenth Plan envisages strengthening of market linkages for the products of self-employed by setting up rural *haats* and positioning the products through KVIC outlets, State Emporia and Handlooms and Handicrafts Trade Fairs. In addition, a new Model for marketing of village & Small Industry (VSI) products is also proposed in the Tenth Plan.